

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

**Panelists**      Dr. David Marcozzi, ASPR  
                     Dr. Andrea Young, CDC  
                     Judy Delany, CDC  
                     Marion Aldrich, ASPR

### Summary

ASPR is leading the way on developing a standardized, core federal disaster curriculum and training program for public health and medical professionals. This session was intended to be a dialogue between HHS, its Federal, State and local partners and its stakeholders on the current state of education and training, potential next steps, and to solicit input on the way ahead. The role of education and training in both the PAHPA legislation and the more recent Homeland Security Presidential Directive 21 (HSPD-21) was examined and discussed by the panelists and stakeholders.

### Session Highlights

- A common non-siloed interdisciplinary federal effort to develop competencies and curricula and training that is applicable to healthcare providers is needed.
- Healthcare providers include public health, medical and clinical providers, and laboratorians.
- It was recommended that HHS build on existing efforts with the timeline of one year, suggested by HSPD -21, to develop core competencies, build on what has been done, and progress the ball forward.
- Another interesting topic concerned when education and training efforts should end. We should educate healthcare providers, including public health, medical, and laboratorians, but what about firemen and policemen, and then the public? What really defines the definition of preparedness if the public is not educated as well?

### Key Questions and Comments

- *Is behavioral health considered part of professional training?* Yes.
- The panel was asked to talk about the Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program's (BTCDP) contracts with accreditation bodies and how that was utilized to disseminate competencies across entire professions.
- *Have goals and objectives for the core curriculum been established?* Goals and objectives have not been established, but work with partners and stakeholders would have to be conducted within the guidelines of HSPD-21.
- *Are there going to be funds available to disseminate the educational resources once they have been developed?* That is still a work in progress.
- *Is there any plan to bring other agencies or maybe community-based organizations (CBOs) to support a multicultural effort?* While it is recognized as a good starting point, nothing has been implemented yet.
- *Would BTCDP programs that are not a School of Public Health be eligible for applications?* The Centers for Public Health Preparedness (CPHP) program itself is the only appropriation that is linked, and so our interpretation is that only accredited Schools of Public Health can compete for that particular pot of money, although that's not to say that accredited Schools of Public Health can't partner with other entities.